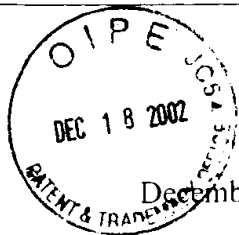


ReedSmith

Marc J. Farrell • 717.257.3044 • mfarrell@reedsmith.com



December 10, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Application No.: 09/423,572
 Filing Date: November 29, 1999
 First Named Inventor: Ralf Timmerman, et al
 Title: HEAT-SEALABLE FILTER MATERIAL WITH
 BIODEGRADABLE POLYMERS

 Group Art Unit: 1771
 Atty. Docket No.: 01-611-US
 Our Ref. No.: 861266-20068

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 10, 2002, Applicants submit the following documents in connection with the above-identified application:

1. Response to Office Action;
2. Petition and Fee for Extension of Time Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) (in duplicate);

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any papers and/or fees referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being

☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service on December 10, 2002 with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Name: Kathy Nutter

Signature: Kathy Nutter

Date: December 10, 2002

213 Market Street Delaware
9th Floor New Jersey
P.O. Box 11844 New York
Harrisburg, PA 17108-1844 Pennsylvania
717.234.5988 United Kingdom
Fax 717.236.3777 Virginia
Washington, DC

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Commissioner for Patents
December 10, 2002
Page 2

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3. a check for \$920.00 to cover the \$920.00 extension of time fee for three (3) months (large entity); and
4. a self-addressed stamped postcard, return of which is requested to acknowledge receipt of this paper, and the papers and/or fees referred to herein as transmitted, submitted or enclosed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 18-0582. A duplicate of this authorization is enclosed.

Very truly yours,

REED SMITH LLP



By:
Marc J. Farrell
Reg. No. 37,826

mjf

Enclosures